

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 3 and 5-19 to read as follows. (Although Claims 3-8 and 11-17 have been withdrawn from consideration, as directed to non-elected species, Claims 3, 5-8 and 11-17 have been amended to attend to formal matters.)

1. (Currently Amended) A tape provided with a base, comprising:

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~~a base having electrothermal transducers formed therein, the electrothermal transducers being adapted to heat a liquid used for printing and introduced through a liquid introduction passage and to eject the liquid through an ejection port forming surface; and~~

~~a tape member arranged at a periphery of an accommodating portion where the base is accommodated, and having connecting portions electrically connected to said electrothermal transducers in said base;~~

~~wherein said tape member includes reinforcement portions having a larger rigidity than that of said connecting portions and connected at one end to electrode portions on said base~~

a tape-like frame member having an electrical wiring, said tape-like frame member including a base provided with elements for generating energy for ejecting a liquid to be used for printing through ejection ports, said base having a first electrode for receiving electrical power supplied to said elements from a source outside of said base, a conductive layer for forming said electrical wiring, and a tape member for supporting said conductive layer;

a second electrode provided at said base, said second electrode not receiving electricity;

a first connecting portion formed of a first portion of said conductive layer, said

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first connecting portion not being supported by said tape member, and said first connecting portion being conductively bonded to said first electrode;

a second connecting portion formed of a second portion of said conductive layer, said second connecting portion not being supported by said tape member, and said second connecting portion being conductively bonded to said second electrode to which electricity is not supplied;

wherein said second connecting portion forms reinforcement portions for reinforcing a junction between said first connecting portion and said first electrode by bonding said second connecting portion to said second electrode.

2. (Original) A tape provided with a base according to claim 1, wherein said reinforcement portions are arranged to face corners of said base.

3. (Currently Amended) A tape provided with a base according to claim 1, wherein said reinforcement portions are arranged to face ~~an~~ almost central parts of ~~each of~~ opposing ends of said base.

4. (Withdrawn) A tape provided with a base according to claim 1, wherein said reinforcement portions are arranged to face opposing ends of said base and installed at a plurality of locations on each of said opposing ends.

5. (Currently Amended) A tape provided with a base according to claim 1, wherein parts of said tape member facing ~~one~~ ends of said reinforcement portions, respectively, each have a notched portion.

6. (Currently Amended) A tape provided with a base according to claim 1, wherein, below an opening formed in a part of said tape member that faces said accommodating portion there are arranged a plurality of said bases to ~~each of~~ which said reinforcement portions are connected.

7. (Currently Amended) A tape provided with a base according to claim 6, wherein said opening is divided into a plurality of openings, one for each of said bases.

8. (Currently Amended) A tape provided with a base according to claim 1, ~~wherein;~~ wherein said base is arranged below an opening formed in a part of said tape member that faces said accommodating portion ~~there is arranged one of said base.~~

9. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection print head for ejecting a liquid through ejection ports to effect printing, said liquid ejection print head comprising:

~~a tape provided with a base as claimed in claim 1;~~

~~a conductive layer having connecting portions joined to said tape member, said connecting portions being connected to electrode portions on said base, said electrode portions being electrically connected to said electrothermal transducers; and~~

~~a body having a liquid supply portion for introducing said liquid to said base;~~

~~wherein said connecting portions include branch portions branched at one end and~~

~~electrically connected to said electrode portions on said base and reinforcement portions having a larger rigidity than that of said branch portions and connected at one end to said electrode portions on said base~~

a supplying passage for supplying a liquid to said ejection ports;

a conductive layer for forming an electrical wiring;

a tape member for supporting said conductive layer;

a base provided with elements for generating energy for ejecting a liquid to be used for printing through said ejection ports, said base having a first electrode for receiving electrical power supplied to said elements from a source outside of said base;

a second electrode provided at said base, said second electrode not receiving electricity;

a first connecting portion formed of a first portion of said conductive layer, said first connecting portion not being supported by said tape member, and said first connecting portion being conductively bonded to said first electrode;

a second connecting portion formed of a second portion of said conductive layer, said second connecting portion not being supported by said tape member, and said second connecting portion being conductively bonded to said second electrode to which electricity is not supplied when said liquid ejection print head is operated;

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wherein said second connecting portion forms reinforcement portions for reinforcing a junction between said first connecting portion and said first electrode by bonding said second connecting portion to said second electrode.

10. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection print head according to claim 9, wherein said reinforcement portions ~~of said connecting portions~~ are arranged to face corners of said base.

11. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection print head according to claim 9, wherein said reinforcement portions ~~of said connecting portions~~ are arranged to face ~~an~~ almost central parts ~~of each of~~ opposing ends of said base.

12. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection print head according to claim 9, wherein said reinforcement portions ~~of said connecting portions~~ are arranged to face opposing ends of said base and installed at a plurality of locations on each of said opposing ends.

13. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection print head according to claim 9, wherein parts of said tape member facing ~~one ends~~ of said reinforcement portions, respectively, ~~of said connecting portions~~ each have a notched portion.

14. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection print head according to claim 9, wherein, below an opening formed in a part of said tape member that faces said accommodating

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portion there are arranged a plurality of said bases to ~~each of~~ which said reinforcement portions are connected.

15. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection print head according to claim 14, wherein said opening is divided into a plurality of openings, one for each of said bases.

16. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection print head according to claim 9, ~~wherein;~~ wherein said base is arranged below an opening formed in a part of said tape member that faces said accommodating portion ~~there is arranged one of said base.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection print head according to claim 9, wherein ~~said branch portions and said reinforcement portions of said connecting portions~~ are arranged in a direction of an array of said ejection ports in ~~said~~ an ejection port-forming port-forming surface.

18. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection print head according to claim 9, wherein ~~said branch portions and said reinforcement portions of said connecting portions~~ are arranged in a direction perpendicular to said direction of array of ejection ports in said ejection port-forming surface said first connecting portion and said second connecting portion are arranged in a direction crossing a direction of an array of said ejection ports.

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19. (Currently Amended) A liquid ejection print head according to claim 9,
wherein ~~said~~ the liquid is an ink or a processing liquid for rendering ~~said~~ the ink insoluble.
